



SR1040

LRB099 14525 GRL 38642 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Raymond "Sonny" George Lohse of Rock Island, who passed away on September 21, 2015; and

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WHEREAS, Raymond Lohse was born on July 20, 1923 in Davenport, Iowa; his parents were Hugo H. and Lena Avery Lohse; he married Grace B. DeSchepper on October 5, 1951; and

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WHEREAS, Raymond Lohse attended Immanuel Lutheran School, Rock Island High School, and Augustana College; in 1942, he volunteered to enter the armed forces, becoming a naval aviator and fighter pilot in the Pacific theatre; he was honored with a Distinguished Flying Cross, an Occupational Service Medal, and an Air Medal in recognition of his actions during World War II; and

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WHEREAS, After World War II, Raymond Lohse became a professional test pilot for Vought Sikorsky in California before returning home to take over the family business; he then became CEO of Lohse Group and would lead the family-run automotive parts company for over 50 years; and

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WHEREAS, Raymond Lohse was involved on a number of boards and committees throughout his career; he served as Vice

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1 President of the Illinois Automotive Association, Chairman of
2 Parts Plus International, a member of the Parts Plus Executive
3 Committee, a member of the Distributor Council for General
4 Motors, and a member of the boards of Wagner Electric,
5 Raybestos Brakes, and Federal Mogul; he also served as head of
6 the Rock Island Retail Bureau and was a 20-year member and
7 commissioner of the Quad City International Airport
8 Metropolitan Airport Authority; and

9 WHEREAS, Raymond Lohse was a member of the Rotary, the
10 American Legion, and Immanuel Lutheran Church; and

11 WHEREAS, Raymond Lohse was an avid golfer and enjoyed
12 spending time and playing cards with his friends; and

13 WHEREAS, Raymond Lohse was preceded in death by his
14 parents; his wife; and his sister, Betty Lohse Benjamin; and

15 WHEREAS, Raymond Lohse is survived by his soul mate, Debra
16 Friederichs; his son, Ray Lohse; his daughter and son-in-law,
17 Susan and Ronald Hicks; his granddaughters, Lindsay and Ashley
18 Hicks; and Debra's daughter, Christina Dreiling; therefore, be
19 it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with his

1 family and friends, mourn the passing of Raymond "Sonny" George
2 Lohse; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
4 presented to the family of Raymond Lohse as an expression of
5 our sympathy.